a sorbent material in the sorbent volume and extending from the opening toward the barrier, the sorbent material being selected for use in the chemical analysis and the porous barrier being selected to prevent passage of the sorbent material past the porous barrier and out of the sorbent volume.

2. (Once Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 1, further comprising a manually operated suction device on the pipette tip to exert a suction on the pipette tip to draw processing fluids through the opening in the tip, through the sorbent material and through the porous barrier.

4. (Once Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 1, wherein the sorbent material comprises a plurality of particles and the size of the opening in the tip is from about 2 to about 10 times the size of the particles used in the sorbent material.

6. (Twice Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 1, wherein the sorbent material comprises a plurality of particles with a coating of a solvent on the particles that is sticky enough to cause the particles to stick together and resist passage out of the opening in the tip under gravitational forces while allowing sorbent to be expelled under pressure.

8. (Twice Amended) A sorbent cartridge, comprising:

a pipette tip having an interior cavity in fluid communication with a distal opening located in the tip;

a filter placed in the tip and defining a predetermined volume that extends between the filter and the distal opening with no further filter being in the predetermined volume; and

a sorbent material substantially filling the volume, the filter retaining the sorbent material in the predetermined volume while allowing passage of processing fluids through the filter during use of the cartridge.

11. (Twice Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 8, wherein the sorbent material comprises particles having diameters and wherein the distal opening has a diameter of about 2 to about 10 times the maximum diameter of the sorbent material.

12. (Once Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 9, wherein the pipette tip contains a fluid drawn from the distal opening through the sorbent material and filter.

13. (Twice Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 8, wherein the sorbent material comprises a plurality of particles having a coating of a solvent that is sticky enough to cause the particles of the

sorbent material to stick together and resist passage out of the opening in the tip under the influence of gravitational forces while allowing sorbent to be expelled under pressure.

33. (Twice Amended) A sorbent cartridge for use in preparing samples for chemical analysis, comprising:

a hollow tip having an opening in a distal end;

means in the tip for retaining a porous barrier at a predetermined location to define a sorbent volume between the barrier and the opening in the hollow tip, with no porous barrier being interposed between the opening and said means; and

a sorbent material between the opening and said means retained in the sorbent volume by the porous barrier for use in the chemical analysis, the barrier allowing passage of fluids but not the sorbent material, during use of the sorbent cartridge.

35. (Once Amended) A sorbent cartridge for use in preparing samples for chemical analysis, comprising:

a tip having a longitudinal axis and a distal tip having cavity walls that define an interior cavity extending along the axis with an opening at a distal end of the tip;

a porous barrier in the cavity placed at a predetermined location in the tip to define a sorbent volume between the barrier, the cavity walls and the opening at the distal end of the tip, the barrier allowing processing fluids to pass through the barrier; and

a slurry of sorbent material in the sorbent volume and extending from the opening toward the barrier, the sorbent not being restrained by a porous barrier over the opening from being expelled from the opening, the sorbent material being selected for use in the chemical analysis and the barrier being selected to prevent passage of the sorbent material out of the sorbent volume, the sorbent material being adapted to pass into and out of the opening with the slurry.

44. (Once Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 35, further comprising a cap covering the opening and placed to prevent sorbent from passing out of the opening.

45. (Once Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 35, wherein the sorbent material comprises particles having diameters and wherein the distal opening has a diameter of about 2 to about 10 times the maximum diameter of the particles.

46. (Once Amended) A sorbent cartridge for use in preparing samples for chemical analysis, comprising:

a tip having a longitudinal axis and a distal tip having cavity walls that define an interior cavity extending along the axis with an opening at a distal end of the tip;

a porous barrier at not more than one location inside the cavity in the tip and defining a sorbent volume between the porous barrier, the cavity walls and the opening at the distal end of the tip, the porous barrier allowing processing fluids to pass through the barrier; and

a slurry of sorbent material in the sorbent volume and extending from the opening toward the barrier, the sorbent material being selected for use in the chemical analysis and the barrier being selected to prevent passage of the sorbent material out of the sorbent volume while allowing the passage of processing fluids through the porous barrier, the sorbent being sized to pass into and out of the opening with the slurry and the opening having no porous barrier restraining the sorbent from passing into or out of the sorbent volume through the opening.

47. (Once Amended) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 46, wherein the tip is tapered toward the opening in the distal end of the tip.

51. (Once Amended) A sorbent cartridge for use in preparing samples for chemical analysis, comprising:

a tip having a longitudinal axis and a distal tip having cavity walls that define a tapered interior cavity extending along the axis with an opening at a distal end of the tip;

a porous barrier at not more than one location inside the cavity in the tip and defining a sorbent volume between the porous barrier, the cavity walls and the opening at the distal end of the tip, the porous barrier allowing processing fluids to pass through the barrier; and

a slurry of sorbent material in the sorbent volume and extending from the opening to the barrier, the sorbent material being selected for use in the chemical analysis and the barrier being selected to prevent passage of the sorbent material out of the sorbent volume while allowing the passage of processing fluids through the porous barrier, the sorbent being adapted to pass into and out of the opening with the slurry, the opening having no porous barrier restraining the sorbent from passing into or out of the sorbent volume through the

opening.

52. (Once Amended) A sorbent cartridge for use in preparing samples for chemical analysis, comprising:

a pipette tip having a longitudinal axis and a hollow distal tip with tapered walls defining an interior cavity extending along the axis and opening at a distal end of the tip which opening is not blocked by a porous barrier;

a porous barrier in the tapered cavity placed at a predetermined location in the tip to define a sorbent volume between the barrier, the cavity walls and the opening at the distal end of the tip, the barrier allowing processing fluids to pass through the barrier; and

a sorbent material in the sorbent volume, the sorbent material being selected for use in the chemical analysis and the barrier being selected to prevent passage of the sorbent material out of the sorbent volume, the sorbent material comprising a plurality of particles with a coating of a solvent on the particles that is sticky enough to cause the particles to stick together and resist passage out of the opening in the tip under the influence of gravitational forces while allowing sorbent to be expelled under pressure.

54. (Once Amended) A sorbent cartridge, comprising:

a pipette tip having an interior cavity in fluid communication with a distal opening located in the tip, the opening not being blocked by a porous cover;

a filter placed in the tip and defining a predetermined volume between the barrier and the distal opening; and

a sorbent material substantially filling the volume, the filter retaining the sorbent material in the predetermined volume while allowing passage of processing fluids through the filter during use of the cartridge, the sorbent material comprising a plurality of particles having a coating of a solvent that is sticky enough to cause the particles of the sorbent material to stick together and resist passage out of the opening in the tip under the influence of gravitational forces while allowing sorbent to be expelled under pressure.

Please add the following new claims:

56. (New) The sorbent cartridge of Claim 1, further comprising a removable cap covering the opening.